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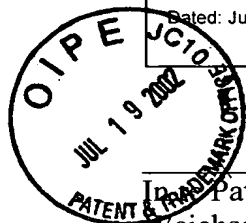
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Dated: July 15, 2002

Signature: 

Joseph A. Williams, Jr.

Docket No.: 27373/36638A
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Patent Application of:
Weichselbaum, et al.

Application No.: 09/964,042

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: September 26, 2001

Examiner: B. Puri, Ph.D.

For: Treatment of Tumors with Genetically
Engineered Herpes Virus

AMENDMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated January 15, 2001, pending claims 1 through 9 were variously rejected under 35 USC §112, first and second paragraphs, and §102(b). In view of the remarks made herein, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 as indicated below.

1 (Amended). A method for reducing tumor mass comprising the step of administering to an individual suffering from cancer an amount of a Herpes simplex virus (HSV) comprising a modified HSV genome wherein said modification comprises a modification of an inverted repeat region of said HSV genome such that one γ 1.34.5 gene remains intact and said amount of HSV being effective to reduce tumor mass.

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